Development of equipment high resolution pictures

2111. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to develop equipments for high resolution pictures showing ground objects in great details;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It will not be in the public interest to disclose details.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of main battle tank

2112. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) when was the project for the development of Main Battle Tank (MBT) conceived;

(b) when was the actual work regarding Research and Development taken up;

(c) whether certain experts in the field had expressed their reservations about the feasibility of the project, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what is the present position with regard to its production?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The project for the development of Main Battle Tank (MBT) was conceived in August 1972.

(b) With the approval of the Government work of research and development of MBT was taken up in March 74 Subsequently major changes in the Qualitative Requirements and desired performance level were made in the scope of the project during 1980 and 1985. The work on the design and development of MBT as per revised qualitative Requirement, which is state-of-art tank commenced in 1985.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) 12 Prototypes including 2 fully integrated prototypes of MBT (ARJUN) have been fabricated and have undergone extensive trials. 6 Pre-production series tanks are, at present, under manufacture. These will be subjected to extensive trials by the Army during 1992. This tank is expected to be ready for production by 1993.

Transfer on land in Kanpur Cantonment Board

2113. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of construction proposals received by the Kanpur Cantonment Board in the last one year;

(b) the details of "leases" of lands of each such new construction proposals;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of lessees of leasehold lands in Kanpur Cantonment Board area have been transferring their property without any consent or approval of the Board;

(d) whether Government are losing revenue in such cases heavily; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (e) The details of construction proposals received by Kanpur Cantonment Board since December 1990 are given in the annexed Statement. No case of transfer of lease hold lands by lessees without approval of or without intimation to the Cantonment Board has come to Government's notice. Since lease rentals, realised by Cantonment Boards, are credited to the Cantonment Fund and not to Government, there is no loss of revenue to Government.